

*MEMO
FIVE*



*Jim Plummer
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29 NOV 1983

**State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**DIVISION OF WASTE MANAGEMENT
32 E. Hanover St., CN 028, Trenton, N.J. 08625**

**Marwan M. Sadat
DIRECTOR**

**Jorge Berkowitz
Administrator**

Mr. Michael J. McCaffrey
Law Offices of George J. Otlowski, Jr.
717 Convery Boulevard
Perth Amboy, New Jersey 08861

10 NOV 1983

**Re: 500 High Street
Perth Amboy**

Dear Mr. McCaffrey:

In reference to your letter of November 1, 1983 regarding an examination of the above property, I fear that there was some misunderstanding during the telephone conversation mentioned.

As I recall the discussion, you were informed that this agency does not have the resources, either fiscal or personnel, to sample every property in New Jersey proposed for purchase. However, should the current owner or potential buyer wish to have chemical analyses performed by a private contractor, we will be happy to review and comment upon the proposed sampling strategy.

Specific to 500 High Street, it would appear from the map provided by you that it lies in the immediate vicinity of the former Duane Marine Salvage Corporation, which I presume is the site of the chemical fire mentioned. If that is so, there is a reasonable likelihood of contamination on the property which will be investigated during initial remedial activities related to Duane Marine, a Management Plan 1983-1986 site currently under consideration for cleanup by this Department.

I hope that this will clear up any lingering misconceptions. Should you have any further questions on this matter, please feel free to write again.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Katz
Site Evaluation Unit

HS38:jgt
cc: Administrator Berkowitz
Chief Farro

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MEMONEW JERSEY STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTIONTO FileFROM James R. Plummer, BEERA/IEASDATE 11 OCT 1983SUBJECT DUANE MARINE AIR MONITORING

On Wednesday, September 28, 1983, Charles Bartolone and myself performed routine air monitoring of the Duane Marine site in Perth Amboy.

Upon arrival, we made a perimeter assessment using the photo ionization detector (PID) set on the most sensitive level. We discovered no gas via the PID readings, however, a foul odor was detected downwind of the drums located outside of the warehouse's north side. Placing the detector's probe into the opening of various drums did not give a needle deflection.

We decided to take some specific gas readings in the malodorous area utilizing the MSA tubes and hand pump. Checking for unsaturated hydrocarbons hydrogen cyanide, xylene, acetone, and ethyl benzene, we found no discoloration. Windy conditions (20 mph.) could have prevented accurate readings, especially in view of the limited accuracy of our instrumentation is other than highly concentrated air supplies. Additional air sampling may be necessary. It is recommended that it be performed on very calm days.

HS25:njl

cc: Charles Bartolone
Joseph Goliszewski
Edwin Liu

12-14

MEMO

NEW JERSEY STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

TO Ronald T. Corcory

FROM Jonathan Berg *JB*

DATE 1/19/83

SUBJECT Duane Marine Corp., Perth Amboy, Middlesex

On 1/13/83 Bruce Venner and myself drove by the subject site and observed the main gate to be unlocked and half open. We entered the site and did not observe any trespassers. Be advised that the site could now be subject to vandalism and/or sabotage. In light of the dangerous chemical wastes present at this site, I recommend that the front gate be repaired and secured with several locks.